

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bearing assembly, comprising:

5 a reclosable fastener film comprising a base sheet and a multiplicity of parallel ribs projecting from the base sheet to form a first slidable fastener;

a reclosable fastener film comprising a base sheet and a multiplicity of parallel ribs projecting from the base sheet to form a first bearing piece;

10 a reclosable fastener film comprising a base sheet and a multiplicity of parallel ribs projecting from the base sheet to form a second bearing piece; and

a reclosable fastener film comprising a base sheet and a multiplicity of parallel ribs projecting from the base sheet to form a second slidable fastener;

15 wherein a bearing is formed when the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the first bearing piece is connected to the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the second bearing piece such that the ribs of the second bearing piece are not parallel to the ribs of the first bearing piece;

20 wherein the ribs of the first bearing piece are interengaged with the ribs of the first slidable fastener and the ribs of the second bearing piece are interengaged to the ribs of second slidable fastener such that the second slidable fastener is not parallel to the first slidable fastener;

wherein the first and second slidable fasteners have substantially unrestricted biaxial motion relative to one another; and

25 wherein the first and second slidable fasteners have substantially restricted motion in the axial direction perpendicular to the slidable fasteners.

2. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the wherein the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the first bearing piece is attached to the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the second bearing piece such that the ribs of the second bearing piece are perpendicular to the ribs of the first bearing piece.

3. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener film of the slidable fasteners and the bearing pieces are different but interengagable.

4. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener film of the slidable fasteners and the bearing pieces are self-mating.

5 5. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein at least the topmost portion of the ribs includes a friction-reducing agent to facilitate interengagement of the slidable fasteners with a bearing piece.

6. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the base sheet of at least one slidable fastener has a raised area attached to the ribs to limit the biaxial motion of the bearing.

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7. The bearing assembly of claim 6, wherein the raised area comprises a reclosable fastener film comprising a base sheet and a multiplicity of parallel ribs projecting from the base sheet to form a tab.

15 8. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the ribs of at least one slidable fastener have been permanently deformed to limit the biaxial motion of the bearing.

9. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener film is prepared by coextrusion of at least two different materials, whereby one portion of the fastener film comprises one material and a different portion of the fastener comprises a different material.

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10. An article comprising the bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of at least one slidable fastener is attached to a substrate.

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11. The article of claim 10, wherein the base sheet is a substrate.

12. The article of claim 10, wherein the substrate is rigid.

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13. The article of claim 10, wherein the substrate is flexible.

14. The article of claim 10, wherein the substrate is flat.

15. The article of claim 10, wherein the substrate is curved.

5 16. The article of claim 10, further comprising a second substrate attached to the second slidable fastener.

10 17. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the bearing assembly comprises multiple slidable fasteners interengaged to multiple bearings, wherein at least one slidable fastener is not parallel to at least one other slidable fastener; and wherein at least one slidable fastener has substantially unrestricted biaxial motion relative to at least one other slidable fastener; and wherein all the slidable fasteners have substantially restricted motion in the axial direction perpendicular to the slidable fasteners

15 18. The bearing assembly of claim 1, further comprising a substrate located between the first and second bearing pieces wherein the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the first bearing piece is attached to the substrate, and the flat side of the base sheet opposite the ribbed surface of the second bearing piece is attached to an opposite side of the same substrate, such that the ribs of the second bearing piece are not parallel to the ribs of the first bearing piece, to form a bearing.

19. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the flat side of the first and second bearing pieces are laminated to each other with an adhesive.

25 20. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the bearing further comprises a rotational element that is attached to the bearing and wherein the bearing provides rotational motion about a hypothetical axis extending through the bearing while substantially preventing motion perpendicular to the bearing.

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21. The bearing assembly of claim 17, wherein the bearings further comprise rotational elements that are attached to the bearings and wherein the bearings provide rotational motion about a hypothetical axis extending through the bearings while substantially preventing motion perpendicular to the bearings.

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22. The bearing assembly of claim 1, further including a one-dimensional slidable fastener to allow z-direction motion.

23. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the parallel ribs comprise a series of closely spaced projections.

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24. The bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein verification occurs when the ribs of at least one of the first and second bearing piece are interengaged with at least one of the first and second slidable fastener.

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25. The bearing assembly of claim 24, wherein the verification is an audible sound.